

a.) Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 2, line 20 and ending at page 3, line 4 to read as follows:

--Epothilones C and D can be used for the preparation of the compounds of the following formula 1, where for their derivatization reference can ~~b-made to th~~ be made to the derivatization methods described in ~~WO-A-97/19-086~~ WO-A-97/19086 (US Patent No. 6,831,076 issued December 14, 2004).